

Issue date September 2017

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The Pastel Society of W.A.

President: Val Brooks
 Vice President Rayma Reany
 Secretary: Lee Calley
 Treasurer: Adrienne Kinnear

Patron: Kevin Jackson

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Message from the President

Pastel Society Annual Exhibition

Congratulations to all the artists who submitted paintings for our annual exhibition. It was our biggest yet with 64 artists, 163 paintings (42 of which were 9" x 5") and 48 sales of just over \$1500 in the 3 days

Although we were unable to set up the surf club until 8 30pm on the Thursday we had so many willing helpers that it was done in record time! Friday was busy with hanging the paintings, the judging and Alison Dowley did a very professional job of photographing the artwork.

We were very fortunate to have WA artist Brendan Derby as our special guest to open the exhibition and he said he was very impressed by the high standard of the work, which was great to hear from such an accomplished artist. Awards were announced and the crowd created a great opening night atmosphere

The weather was kind over the weekend and a constant stream of visitors kept the sales coming in. Leanna Taylor's door prize painting raised a record sum of approximately \$1800 and the artists' demonstrations attracted plenty of interest.

Well done and huge thanks to everyone involved. Without all our willing helpers this exhibition would not happen. Special thanks to the committee members for all their hard work before and during the exhibition

Val Brooks
 President



Val Brooks on Opening Night (centre) and views from the exhibition

Pastel Society Annual Exhibition - August 2017

Hello Members,

After a very successful Annual Exhibition at Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club, I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to our wonderful Committee and Members for their outstanding support and volunteering to make this our best ever Exhibition. 48 paintings were sold! CONGRATS to all who won Awards and those who sold and to all Members who entered outstanding work to help make it such a high standard. To those who demonstrated over the weekend, thank you for your time - it was a real hit with the public. Lots of great comments all round.

We were honoured to have Brendon Darby (renowned West Australian Artist) Officially Open the Exhibition on Friday night who helped create a fantastic atmosphere.

I am very proud to be a part of this Society.

The lucky person to win the Raffle Door Prize of Leanna Taylor's beautiful Pastel Painting at our Annual Exhibition was - *Barrie Hepworth, of Mt. Lawley.*

Thank you to Leanna Taylor for donating this painting and also to Creative Matt Boards for donating the framing.

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets. A portion of the takings will be donated to our Charity, Camp Quality.

Rayma Reany,
Vice President.



Congratulations to all the Winners - Well Deserved

Our Judges this year were Maryann Devereux and Myra Staffa



FIRST PRIZE-No 80

Carmen McFaul-'Rottnest Bliss'

"Stand out use of colour. Beautiful composition. Very sophisticated marking."



SECOND PRIZE- No 133

Julie Silvester-'So Silent'

"Incredible subtlety and sense of stillness and serenity achieved by sophisticated and understated technique."



THIRD PRIZE- No 86

Betty McLean-'Bushland WA'

"This ticks all the boxes. Lovely composition indicative of the Australian Bush-use of colour and texture have wintery mood."



HIGHLY COMMENDED 1-No 140

Leanna Taylor-'Spotlight'

"Intriguing composition and use of colour. A fresh contemporary pastel mark making approach. A moody take on a traditional landscape genre."



HIGHLY COMMENDED 2-No 150

Anthony Turner-'Rush Hour 2'

"This we chose for its atmosphere, sense of place and movement. Great use of colour and smudgy pastel technique."





FIRST PRIZE 9X5-No 119

Rayma Reany-'Salt Lake Serenity'

"Really captured a time and place by use of subtle colour and minimal mark making."



HIGHLY COMMENDED 9X5-No 56

Roslyn Griffiths-'Silhouette'

"A big expanse theme on a tiny scale. Beautiful use of colour and technique."



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD-No91

Lindy Midalia-'Hidden Secret'

Unframed Pastel Exhibition & Sale Floreat Forum 4th-6th May 2017

This Exhibition was quite successful with 43 paintings sold over the three day period. The location was good outside the Amcal Chemist and close to Woolworths, however, the Shopping Centre was very quiet for late night shoppers with only the food outlets open, hence not the traffic through as we had hoped. We may revise this for next year and go back to the Sat. prior to Mother's Day.



The lucky winner of the Raffle Painting donated by Robyn Every and framed by Creative Matboards, was Cecilia Turton (pictured) of Wembley Downs.

Rayma Reany,
Vice President

The Next Unframed Exhibition Greenwood Village Shopping Centre Friday 24th & Saturday 25th November, 2017

Expressions of interest are required. Please let me know - raymareany@iinet.net.au if you are interested in participating in this event. This will determine how many entries per person will be allowed. Every entrant must volunteer to a 2hr. duty over the 2 day time slot. We will have for sale at Pastels - mats, with spacers, backing, in cellophane bags in off white to fit a quarter sheet for \$15 to assist you with your unframed paintings.

Rayma Reany,
Vice President

Demonstration by Lyn Diefenbach

On Monday, 8th May, Lyn Diefenbach demonstrated her masterly painting technique for flowers, for which she is well known both within Australia and internationally. Lyn is a member of the Australian Pastel Society, Queensland, and is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America. For this demonstration, she had made a start on the painting of roses, so that we could watch her bring a section of the painting to completion. She is an expert demonstrator, describing her process in detail as she painted for us.



Her materials: Lyn uses a variety of pastels including Holbein (square and Rembrandt-like), Sennelier, Great American Artworks (silky), Unison, Art Spectrum, Terry Ludwig and Giraults, which are her favourite. For her demonstration she used the now-unavailable Kitty Wallace paper, but finds Fisher 400 almost as good. She also uses Uart 600, Pastel Premier and Ampersand boards. She prefers white for clarity and shimmering effect of colour, but also underpaints at times.

The southern side of her studio is glass and has 6 banks of white double fluoros with curved surfaces that provide lighting with no cast shadows. She finds the most comfortable working position is just below eye level where she has better control and no neck or back aches!

Her process: For these complex flower paintings, she first uses two L-shaped pieces of matboard to select the composition and format on a photograph. She then crops the photo to suit. She uses a pastel pencil and grid system (sandwich bag over her photo!) to draw in her shapes initially.

For this demonstration, she worked on completing a rose, petal by petal. She slowly 'finds her way' around each petal at a time, beginning with the darks, working from top to bottom and staying as bright and as dark for as long as possible, then "sneaking up" to the lights. Once there is enough pastel on the paper, she "sculpts" the form with her 4th finger, rolling the petal into a 3D shape. Attention to value/tone is important, with constant checking and comparing, then pulling it together by blending. Once the form of the petal has been sculpted only then will Lyn paint in any surface patterning. She "pushes" the patterning in to avoid it looking like it is floating on top. Success with this whole process relies not only on light, tone colour and edge, but also on hand sensitivity!

While there was insufficient time to demonstrate her process for painting in a background, Lyn will often use red and green darks, pushed around with Artist's Odourless Solvent. She will also blend large areas with the side of her hand.

Some wise thoughts ...

... on colour: Think in terms of red, blue yellow. For example, is it a blue-green or yellow-green? blue-red or green-red? How saturated is the colour? Is it a neutral colour?

... on making mud: Mud can result from using dirty pastels or dirty fingers, or from overblending. Mud can also arise from the inclusion of too much white (giving a chalky, dull and opaque appearance) and an inappropriate colour temperature. Her motto - "stay as bright as you can for as long as you can"!

... sculpting form: You need a minimum of 3 values or tones to create the illusion of form on a rounded shape such as a petal.

...if you get stuck on detail: Try this exercise – take 10 quarter sheets of paper and organise your photos and colours to paint 10 paintings in 30 minutes! Then take 10 half-sheets and repeat the process. Finally repeat again with 10 full sheets – always only allowing yourself 30 minutes total!

Reviewed by Adrienne Kinnear

Demonstration by Helen Komene - 20th March 2017

Helen Komene is a country member of The Pastel Society living in Port Hedland. Whilst in Perth and Busselton for workshops she was able to do a demonstration of her 'Pet Pawtraits' for us.

Helen talked about her process and gave us some useful tips. She uses Colourfix pastel primer applied to matboard with a sponge roller or brush. 90% of her pastels are Schminke and Art Spectrum, particularly for her seascapes and landscapes. Faber Castell and Derwent pastel pencils are useful also for the pet portraits, giving more fine marks. Body Shop and Manicare make-up pencil sharpeners are good to keep fine points on the pastel pencils.



Helen uses a separate strip of colourfix paper to try out colours to decide on her colour palate.

For the demonstration Helen used a prepared outline drawn in white pastel and selected 3 light colours, 3 medium colours and 3 dark colours. She starts with the light colours, making marks that show the direction of fur growth.



Helen also had a finished pet portrait on display as the pieces generally take a while to complete.

Some of her important points were:

- Study the subject
- Decide on the composition
- Select the colours
- Directional mark making
- Faber Castell pastel pencils in dk blue/black and black for the dark areas of the nose



Reviewed by Val Brooks

Contact details for the 2017 Pastels Society Committee

OFFICE HELD	NAME	HOME PHONE NO.	E-MAIL
President	Val Brooks	9300 2389	brooks_val@hotmail.com
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Dates to Remember - Up-coming Events

Months of October & November	Demonstrations will be organised by our experienced Artists to volunteer their time to show new and existing members tips and techniques of pastels. This will be on a Monday Evening in late Oct. early Nov. at Mildenhall for those Members interested, so please come along and make the most of this free tuition. The Schedule will be emailed to Members soon – so don't forget to put in your diary. We will leave space for those who still wish to continue painting.
November 24 th & 25 th Friday 9am-9pm Saturday 9am – 5pm	UNFRAMED EXHIBITION at Greenwood Village Shopping Centre, Calectasia St, Greenwood. (Opposite Coles)
December 4th	CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP PARTY, MILDENHALL
<u>NEXT YEAR</u> 12th – 16th September, 2018	<u>PASTEL EXPO</u> - Caloundra, Queensland Sunshine Coast Schedule will be available on the website in November 2017 and bookings begin in February, 2018. email: pastelexpo@gmail.com website: www.australianpastelexpo.com.au

Welcome to the following New Members

Dale Murray - Gerry Manuel - Joanne Francis - Rebecca Downes
Sangita Daniel - Ann Steere - Felicia Lowe - Jill Buckrell - Sean Brealey
Kelly Reuter - Pat Watson - Catherine Kelly - Jaye Williams - Anne McKinnon
Trish Amani - Jill Tomes - Christine Farrell - Lin Chan



Carry Bags

Avis has made some large padded carry bags for protecting your paintings when delivering to and from Exhibitions. They are \$40 each (\$10 towards Pastel Society).

You can contact Avis - avisc@aapt.net.au to order your custom made bag



A Note from the editor

Thank you so much to the hard working Pastel Society members and Committee members who have contributed photos and articles for this issue of the Pastels Newsletter. It is a pleasure to be involved in society with such hard working and dedicated members.

If you would like to contribute any items of interest or advertise a coming exhibition or event in a future Newsletter, please remember to speak to me at Pastels or contact me by e-mail kpl90005@bigpond.net.au

Karyn Platt
Newsletter Editor

Favourite Links

- <http://www.pastelsocietywa.org.au>
- <http://pastelpointersblog.artistsnetwork.com>
- <http://www.pastelsandpencils.com>
- <http://www.wetcanvas.com>
- <http://www.ozpastels.com>
- <http://www.howtopastel.com>